

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02208 211602Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03
/091 W

-----116524 212208Z /41

R 211526Z DEC 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9916
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 2208

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS, JO, IS, EG, XF
SUBJ: WEST BANK MAYORS COMMENT ON BEGIN'S PROPOSALS

REF: JERUSALEM 2189

1. EAST JERUSALEM DAILY "ASH-AB" DECEMBER 21 CARRIES FIRST
PUBLIC COMMENTS BY WEST BANK MAYORS (EXCEPT FOR RAMALLAH
MAYOR KHALAF WHO HAD BEEN QUOTED PREVIOUS DAY IN "JERUSALEM POST").
FOLLOWING ARE REPORTED REMARKS:

2. QAWASIMA (HEBRON) NOTED THAT BEGIN'S PROPOSALS "AS REPORTED
BY PRESS," SIMPLY GAVE INTERNATIONAL LEGITIMACY TO THE
OCCUPATION. HE ADDED THAT SUCH PROPOSALS HAD BEEN REFUSED
AS EARLY AS 1968 AND SAW NO REASON FOR ANY ONE IN THE ARAB
WORLD TO ACCEPT THEM.

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3. HANOUN (TULKARM) NOTED THAT BEGIN'S PLAN WOULD NOT GRANT
ANYTHING TO WEST BANK. HE INSISTED THAT WEST BANKERS
CANNOT ACCEPT THE PRESENCE OF ISRAELI FORCES WHICH
WOULD IN FACT CONTINUE THE OCCUPATION.

4. KHALAF (RAMALLAH) WENT BEYOND BOTH QAWASIMA AND HANOUN

BY STATING THAT HE REJECTS NOT ONLY BEGIN'S PROPOSALS BUT ALSO SADAT'S PROPOSAL OF A LINK BETWEEN WEST BANK AND JORDAN. KHALAF, WHOSE REMARKS TO JERUSALEM POST PREVIOUSLY WERE EVEN MORE DETAILED IN THEIR REJECTION OF BOTH BEGIN'S AND SADAT'S IDEAS, DECLARED THAT AN INDEPENDENT STATE MUST BE ESTABLISHED AND THAT REFUGEE RIGHTS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

5. WE HAVE HEARD FROM A U.S. JOURNALIST THAT BOTH AL-BIRA'S TAWIL AND HALHUL'S MULHIM HAVE ALSO REJECTED THE BEGIN PROPOSAL AT A CONFERENCE ATTENDED BY FOREIGN NEWSMEN HELD IN EAST JERUSALEM ON DECEMBER 19. ALTHOUGH THIS HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED IN LOCAL PRESS, WE EXPECT IT WILL GET SOME NOTICE IN FOREIGN PAPERS.

6. COMMENT: NOT SURPRISINGLY, WE HAVE HEARD NO FAVORABLE COMMENT ON BEGIN'S PROPOSALS FROM ANY WEST BANK MAYOR. NONE SEEM TO BE WILLING TO PICK UP ON BEGIN'S STATEMENT THAT HIS PROPOSALS ARE NEGOTIABLE. BUT THEN, AS OF NOW, NONE OF MAYORS EXPECT TO BE DOING THE NEGOTIATING.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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